

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1) (Currently Amended). A handbag for carrying articles which comprises:
 - a) an enclosure which defines a primary storage space accessible through a primary opening of said enclosure;
 - b) at least one external compartment which is inaccessible through said primary storage space, said external compartment including a closure panel pivotably movable toward and away from said enclosure for selectively providing access thereto;
 - c) a wallet for carrying articles and information, said wallet having at least first and second walls pivotably movable at least between a closed condition of said wallet, and an open condition of said wallet, said wallet being removably positionable within said at least one external compartment and having an opening generally parallel to said primary opening of said enclosure when positioned within said external compartment, said wallet having independent closure means to selectively permit access thereinto; and
 - d) mutually magnetically attractable devices respectively attached directly to a respective inner wall and said closure panel of said at least one compartment and directly to said first and second walls of said wallet for without use of any extension member, removably retaining said wallet in position within said at least one compartment by magnetic attractive force respectively between said inner wall and said closure panel and said first and second walls of said wallet, while permitting separation of said wallet from said at least one compartment, whereby pivotable movement of said closure panel of said at least one compartment toward and away from said enclosure causes corresponding pivotable movement of at least one of said first and second walls of said wallet between said closed and open

conditions of said wallet, and separating said walls of said wallet from said compartment reduces the magnetic attractive force therebetween and permits removal of said wallet by lifting said wallet from said at least one compartment.

2) (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 1, wherein said enclosure is comprised of opposed front and rear walls, opposed side walls, and a bottom wall, said walls defining said primary storage space.

3) (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 2, wherein said mutually magnetically attractable devices comprise magnetic or magnetizable devices.

4) (Cancelled).

5) (Currently Amended). The handbag according to claim ~~[[4]]~~ 3, wherein said magnetically attractable devices are respectively positioned in opposed adjacent relation with each other when said wallet is positioned within said at least one compartment, said magnetically attractable devices for providing magnetic force for separably retaining said wallet in said at least one compartment.

6) (Currently Amended). A handbag which comprises:

a) an enclosure having at least opposed front and rear walls, opposed side walls, and a bottom wall, said walls defining a primary storage space accessible through a primary opening of said enclosure;

b) at least one external compartment which is inaccessible through said primary storage space, said external compartment having an inner wall comprised of one of said walls, said at least one external compartment having at least one closure panel pivotably movable

toward and away from said inner wall between closed and open positions to close and open said at least one external compartment, respectively;

c) at least one first magnetically attractable device attached to said closure panel;

d) at least one second magnetically attractable device attached to said inner wall of said at least one external compartment; and

e) at least one wallet for carrying articles or information and having at least two walls pivotably movable at least between close and open positions to close and open said wallet, said at least two walls each having a magnetically attractable device attached directly thereto without use of any extension member, said at least two walls respectively positionable adjacent said inner wall and said closure panel and said first and second magnetically attractable devices attached thereto, whereby said wallet may be separably attached to said compartment by magnetic attractive force of said first and second magnetically attractable devices, and movement of said closure panel between said closed and open positions correspondingly causes corresponding pivotable movement of at least one of said at least two walls of said wallet to move between said closed and open positions, and separating said [at least] two walls of said wallet respectively from said inner wall and said closure panel reduces the magnetic attractive force therebetween and permits removal of said wallet by lifting said wallet from said compartment, said wallet having an opening generally parallel to said primary opening of said enclosure when positioned within said at least one external compartment, said wallet having independent closure means to selectively permit access thereinto.

7) (Currently Amended). A handbag which comprises:

- a) an enclosure having opposed front and rear walls, a bottom wall, and side walls defining a primary storage space accessible through a primary opening;
- b) an external compartment having an inner wall formed by one of said walls, and being inaccessible from said primary storage space;
- c) a closure panel associated with said at least one wall and arranged for pivotable movement toward and away from said at least one wall so as to selectively close and open said compartment;
- d) at least one first magnetically attractable device attached to said closure panel;
- e) at least one second magnetically attractable device attached to said inner wall of said external compartment; and
- f) a wallet for carrying articles or information and arranged for separable positioning within said compartment, said wallet having at least two walls pivotably movable between closed and open positions, said walls each having attached directly thereto at least one magnetically attractable device for removably attaching said wallet within said compartment without use of any extension member, by positioning said respective attractable devices in adjacent magnetically attractive relation with said first and second magnetically attractable devices so as to develop mutual magnetic attractive force between said magnetically attractable devices, whereby pivotable movement of said closure panel toward and away from said at least one wall correspondingly causes at least one of said walls of said wallet to pivotably move between said closed and open positions, and separating said walls of said wallet from said inner wall and said closure panel respectively reduces the magnetic force

therebetween and permits removal of said wallet from said compartment by lifting said wallet therefrom.

8) (Cancelled).

9) (Currently Amended). The handbag according to claim ~~[[8]]~~ 7, wherein said wallet includes a plurality of panels positioned therein and spaced apart from each other for separating articles.

10) (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 9, wherein said magnetically attractable devices are rare earth magnets and said opposed mutually magnetically attractable devices are magnets or magnetizable material capable of being magnetically attracted to said rare earth magnets.

11) (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 10, wherein said rare earth magnet or magnets are neodymium magnets.

12) (Cancelled).

13) (Cancelled).

14) (Cancelled).

15) (Currently Amended). A method of separably attaching a wallet to a handbag, said wallet having at least two pivotably movable walls, said handbag having opposed front and rear walls, opposed side walls, said walls defining a primary storage space accessible through a primary opening, and an external compartment having at least one inner wall comprised of at least one of said walls of said handbag, and a closure panel pivotably movable between respective positions to open and close said external compartment, comprising:

a) attaching first magnetically attractable device to said at least one closure panel of said at least one compartment;

b) attaching second magnetically attractable device to said inner wall of said external compartment; and

c) attaching third and fourth respective magnetically attractable devices directly to said pivotably movable walls of said wallet at locations whereby said wallet may be separably positioned adjacent said at least one closure panel of said at least one compartment without use of any extension member, whereby said first and third and said second and fourth magnetically attractable devices are respectively positioned in adjacent relation so as to develop magnetically attractive force therebetween to separably attach said wallet to said at least one compartment, and pivotable movement of said closure panel causes corresponding pivotable movement of at least one of said walls of said wallet, and separating said walls of said wallet from said compartment reduces the magnetic force therebetween and permits removal of said wallet from said compartment by lifting said wallet therefrom.

16) (Cancelled).

17) (Currently Amended). A device for carrying articles which comprises:

a) an enclosure having a primary opening to provide access thereto;

b) a wallet for carrying articles or information, said wallet having at least two walls pivotable between closed and open positions and having a zipper-type closure extending generally parallel to said primary opening of said enclosure, said wallet being removably positionable within an external compartment inaccessible through said enclosure, said external compartment having an inner wall and a closure panel adjacent said wallet, said closure panel

being pivotably movable between closed and open positions respectively toward and away from said enclosure to selectively close and open said compartment; and

c) mutually magnetically attractable devices respectively attached to said inner wall and said closure panel of said compartment and directly to said walls of said wallet for retaining said wallet in position with respect to said compartment by magnetic attractive force without use of any extension member, whereby pivotable movement of said closure panel of said compartment between said closed and open positions causes corresponding pivotable movement of at least one of said pivotable walls of said wallet adjacent thereto, and separating said pivotable walls of said wallet respectively from said inner wall and said closure panel reduces the magnetic force therebetween and permits removal of said wallet by lifting said wallet from said compartment.

18) (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 6, wherein said wallet renders the appearance of permanent attachment to said compartment.

19) (Currently Amended). A handbag for carrying articles, which comprises:

a) an enclosure in the form of a handbag which includes a primary storage space and a primary opening to provide access to said primary storage space which defines;

b) at least one external compartment which is inaccessible through said primary storage space and accessible through a closure panel, said at least one external compartment having an inner wall, said closure panel being pivotably movable toward and away from said inner wall;

c) a wallet for carrying articles or information, said wallet having at least first and second walls pivotably movable at least between first and second positions, at least one of

said positions corresponding to a closed condition [of said] of said wallet, and the other of said positions corresponding to an open condition of said wallet, said wallet being removably positionable within said at least one external compartment;

[[c)]] d magnetically attractable devices respectively attached to said inner wall of said at least one compartment and to said closure panel; and

[[d)]] e mutually magnetically attractable devices attached directly to said first and second walls of said wallet for removably retaining said wallet in position within said at least one compartment by magnetic attractive force without use of any extension member, while permitting separation of said wallet from said at least one compartment, whereby pivotable movement of said closure panel of said compartment toward and away from said inner wall causes corresponding pivotable movement of at least one of said first and second walls of said wallet between closed and open conditions of said wallet, and separating said first and second walls of said wallet respectively from said inner wall and said closure panel of said compartment reduces the magnetic attractive force therebetween and permits removal of said wallet by lifting said wallet from said compartment.

20) (Currently Amended). A handbag for carrying articles, which comprises:

- a) an enclosure having opposed front and rear walls, a bottom wall, and side walls defining a primary storage space accessible through a primary opening of said enclosure;
- b) an external compartment which is inaccessible through said primary storage space and which is accessible through a closure panel pivotably movable between closed and open positions respectively toward and away from said enclosure, said external compartment having a fixed inner wall formed of one of said walls defining said primary storage space;

[[b)]] c a wallet for carrying articles, said wallet having at least two walls pivotably movable at least between first and second positions, at least one of said positions corresponding to a closed condition of said wallet, and the other of said positions corresponding to an open condition of said wallet, said wallet being removably positionable within said at least one compartment; and

[[c]] d magnetically attractable devices respectively attached to said fixed inner wall of said external compartment and on said closure panel and mutually magnetically attractable devices attached directly to said at least two walls of said wallet for removably retaining said wallet in position within said external compartment by magnetic attractive force without use of any extension, while permitting separation of said wallet from said [at least one] external compartment, whereby pivotable movement of said closure panel of said compartment toward and away from said enclosure causes corresponding pivotable movement of at least one of said walls of said wallet between closed and open conditions of said wallet, and separating said at least two walls of said wallet from said fixed inner wall of said compartment and said closure panel, respectively, reduces the magnetic attractive force therebetween and permits removal of said wallet by lifting said wallet from said compartment.

21. (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 20, wherein said magnetically attractable devices and said mutually magnetically attractable devices are respectively provided in pairs, one pair of said devices being attached to a wall of said wallet and said fixed inner wall of said compartment, and the other of said pair of devices being attached to the other of said walls of said wallet and to said closure panel.

22. (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 21, wherein at least one of each said pairs of mutually magnetically attractable devices is a rare earth magnet.

23. (Previously Presented). The handbag according to claim 22, wherein each said pair of magnetically attractable devices and mutually magnetically attractable devices are rare earth magnets, and each said rare earth magnet is a neodymium magnet.